

THE EVENING STAR

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON.

SATURDAY, March 30, 1912

THEODORE W. NOYES, Editor

The Evening Star Newspaper Company.

Business Office, 11th St. and Pennsylvania Avenue.
New York Office: Tribune Building.
Chicago Office: First National Bank Building.
European Office: 3 Regent St., London, England.

The Evening Star, with the Sunday morning edition, is delivered by carriers within the city at 40 cents per month; daily only, 25 cents per month; Sunday only, 10 cents per month. Orders may be sent by mail, or telephone Main 2640. Collection is made by carrier at the end of each month.

For sale in advance by mail, postage prepaid: Daily, Sunday included, one month, 60 cents; Daily, Sunday excepted, one month, 40 cents; Saturday Star, 10 cents. Sunday Star, 25 cents year.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Washington, D. C.

In order to avoid delays on account of personal absence, letters to THE STAR should not be addressed to any individual connected with the office, but simply to THE STAR, or to the Editorial or Business Department, according to tenor or purpose.

Congress and Pensions.

The Senate has substituted the McCumber pension bill for the Sherwood bill, and the matter goes to conference. There is a possibility of a compromise, though difficulty may be experienced in reaching it. In the House the Sherwood bill had a large majority, drawn from both sides of the chamber, and in the Senate the McCumber bill passed by a vote of two to one. This appears to fore-shadow a tug of war.

The Sherwood bill carries a very large sum, though there is dispute as to the size of it. Opponents put the figure at seventy-five millions annually, while supporters put it much lower. But, at the lowest, the figure is large, and particularly so at a time when tariff revision with a view of reducing revenue is on the congressional card, and economy is the House cry.

The McCumber bill carries about twenty-five millions annually, and in details is well drawn. It meets the views of many friends of the old soldiers, and should it become law would carry benefit to many worthy veterans.

As usual, when pensions are under discussion, both sides are accused of playing politics. The veterans, it is charged, are being coddled for their votes. Bidding is in progress, and as the case stands the House is the higher bidder.

Whatever individual politicians may have in mind, the record shows that the old soldiers are not manipulable in this, or any other way. They are not for sale. No man or set of men can deliver them at the polls. They do their own thinking, choose their own side, and vote accordingly to their own convictions on public questions in general.

Naturally and properly, they have desired the recognition of the government they helped to save. The service they performed was inestimable. No expression of it in dollars and cents is possible. A mere money price could not be put upon it.

The veterans appreciate the fact that the government has dealt generously by them. Pension allowances have been large and long continued, and veterans have had preference in the distribution of much patronage. No other government has so fine a chapter in its history, and this government has none finer in its own.

Nor does this feeling of appreciation abate as the years lengthen. Sons of legislators who voted for pensionate pensions now as willingly as did their fathers; and legislators born since the war show the warmest sympathy with the cause of good care of the survivors of the great host that responded to the war's appeals while they were ringing.

A generous pension record should be continued, but not beyond provision, of course, for finding the money. Before voting any sum for any purpose, Congress should be sure of the ability of the Treasury to cash the warrant.

The offhand way in which a representative from the middle west disposes of a proposition to build battlehips would suggest that there is nothing like inland experience to qualify a man for quick decision on maritime affairs.

Dr. Elliot is right in saying that a contributor to print is not always permitted to express his mind with unrestrained freedom. But, for that matter, neither is a college professor.

Canada is now taking up for general discussion the question of why reciprocity failed. Apologies to Sir Wilfrid Laurier may yet be in order.

Occasionally there is a more or less mysterious difficulty about ending a strike in England even when the wage-workers are willing to go back to work.

Carrying the war into Africa is coming to be one of Europe's most popular outdoor sports.

The District and the Memorial Hall.

Save for the fact that it does not provide for the acquisition and clearance of the land lying immediately to the north, Senator Root's bill now pending for the George Washington Memorial Hall on the northern end of the "armory" section of the Mall is the most satisfactory proposal yet advanced for the purpose of providing here at the capital a proper meeting place for the conventions which form a distinguishing feature of the year's program at the National Capital. A building of this kind can only be erected as a public or semi-public enterprise. It could not be expected to earn a dividend for private investors. The proposed combination of a practical and a patriotic idea makes most effectively for the success of the plan. For some time an organization has been at work trying to raise a fund by public subscription for the erection of the building, but so definitely have the people obtained the idea that the government should chiefly finance the work that the subscriptions have been slow, and probably if success is to be achieved it will be through the passage of some such measure as the Root bill, which provides for the maintenance of the building from a fund to be contributed by the public at large. Doubtless no difficulty at all would be encountered in raising a maintenance fund on such a basis.

The latest proposition in this connection requires an emphatic negative at the outset, to appropriate out of the District revenues, without an equal matching of federal money, of \$250,000 as the District's share of the \$500,000 to be raised by the country at large. In other words, it is suggested that 10 per cent of the entire cost of the building—not the maintenance fund, but the cost of the construction itself—should be taken out of the local tax revenues in a lump. The argument is advanced that inasmuch as the District would be the chief beneficiary from such a building it should pay the largest single share of the expense of its maintenance. If the enterprise is put on that

basis it were better dropped now as impracticable. The George Washington Memorial, if it is created at all, should be a national enterprise, the people of one city have no greater interest in paying such a tribute to the first President than those of another. This hall is designed as the meeting place of the people of the United States, coming here from all parts of the country to hold their conventions. They come here now on their business, in larger numbers than they go to any other city, or, in fact, any five other cities combined. They will be far more accommodated by the provision of an adequate meeting place than the city itself. Washington will probably contribute more than its proportionate share of a maintenance fund for a George Washington Memorial Hall in case the United States appropriates for its construction a large sum. In that event there will be no occasion to draw upon the District tax revenues for the local percentage of this amount. There is altogether too marked a disposition at present to regard the District's tax money as available for all sorts of projects with being much of a dollar for dollar by federal funds, to give the least encouragement to this latest proposal to ignore the organic act.

The Southern Situation.

A contesting Roosevelt delegation from Mississippi. Well! Was it inspired by Mr. Ormsby McIlharg? Let us hope so, and also hope that Mr. McIlharg may continue his activities and develop for use at Chicago the whole of his being. He understands the field thoroughly. At any rate, he received much of the credit for what was done down there in aid of the Roosevelt program four years ago, and should know his way around. Setting an example for the rest of the team, he is a man rolling was a clever thought. But can Mr. McIlharg turn the trick? Can he make his contests stick? In the famous words of young Hamlet, there's the rub. The southern situation is abnormal and regrettable, and both parties and the people are suffering from it. A change dividing the voters on issues other than "old, unhappy, far-off things, and battles long ago." The existing division is slight, as but a skeleton republican exists down there. No serious challenge of the democracy is made in any state. In Mississippi talk about a republican party sounds droll. A democratic nominee for President carries the south, no matter his locality or his platform.

As a result some queer things happen. Take Louisiana and her sugar interests. She is democratic by any majority her voters may find the time on election day to record. Her delegation in the House is solidly democratic. The members voted for Mr. Clark for Speaker and Mr. Underwood for chairman of ways and means. And yet, those two men, following their tariff convictions, are advocating a measure which were it to become a law would inflict a crushing blow on the state's leading industry.

In her extremity what does Louisiana do? Turn to the republicans for salvation. The President, with the veto power in reserve, is especially in her eye. "Help me, William Howard, or I sink!" The appeal does not reach deaf ears. Mr. Taft will help. He is a protectionist, and all deserving American industries affected by the tariff have claims upon him. It does not and should not, matter to him whether such industries are in republican or democratic states. The protective principle applies in all the states.

Will this make any difference in Louisiana's attitude in November? Not a particle. She will vote against Mr. Taft, and in favor of the Baltimore nominee, whether the latter be Mr. Clark, or Mr. Underwood. She will do her best to turn her friends out of, and bring her enemies into, power.

But stranger still is the fact that this abnormal situation rests upon the old cry of negro domination, which has no more to it today than the chatter about the yellow peril. The dominant race in the south is in full control of local affairs, and stands in no more danger of losing control than of changing the color of its skin.

Perhaps America is overgenerous in allowing European monarchs to be held and associate with its most interesting and picturesque personages without taking the trouble to come over here and be presented.

Mr. Roosevelt's charges as to election frauds tend to strengthen his own conviction that it is essential to have a live exponent of the square deal at the head of the government.

Discouraging the efforts of amateurs in wireless experiments would have the effect of checking the activities of some very promising students and inventors.

The lengthy time required by the grand jury for the consideration of the Brandt case was entirely in accordance with current methods of investigation.

The Allen fugitives have at last come to realize how the people they were after used to feel.

A Handbook Conviction.

Another conviction in the Police Court on a charge of making a handbook indicates that the judicial processes are still effective despite the difficulty in the way of getting evidence sufficient to convict. Since the case of the closure of a practically unrestrained handbook industry in this city a few years ago there has been a public determination to eradicate this evil. It has not been as easy, however, to do this as it might have been supposed. The wide spread of the habit of laying bets on horses that run at distant race tracks. It has at times seemed as though there was not the most sincere disposition on the part of some of the authorities to attack the violators of the anti-rabbling law, but from time to time a case is made and serves to demonstrate that the statute is still in force and that someone persists a determination to give it effect.

Handbook gambling is a most pernicious form of money risking. It is absolutely a matter of chance, for the layer of odds and the player are both guessing on an uncertainty. A pretense that "inside knowledge" is had sometimes deludes the player into the belief that he is following his judgment, but in almost every case this is a sham and the net result is a series of wagers that leads ultimately to losses. Apart from the question of whether this gamble is profitable or costly, it is an unwholesome habit, demoralizing in its influence and creative of a degradation of law and often of the moral obligations of life.

When the handbook evil was flourishing here, before the crusade of a few years ago, thousands of dollars were wasted weekly. Instances were brought to light of families that had been virtually ruined by the indulgence of the hands in this expensive form of amusement. Tradersmen all over Washington suffered from bad debts caused by handbook gambling. The economic waste and drain upon the community were enormous, and the good effect of the reform was immediately manifest. The handbook men were temporarily routed and forced to suspend operation. It is the duty of the police to trace out every suspected instance of handbook gambling

and to bring the offenders promptly to court with such evidence as can be obtained. Few mistakes will be made and persistent prosecution will have the effect of rendering this form of enterprise too hazardous to be conducted.

If the late David Graham Phillips could have lived to see the present rush to publish his manuscripts his personal estate would have been larger.

Current demonstrations do not indicate that votes for women would go very far toward clarifying the conditions of parliamentary procedure.

History's examples do not afford much encouragement to a man who finds himself tempted to bolt the ticket.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Force of Suggestion.

"What makes you jump out so unexpectedly and go around the yard with a lawn mower?" asked the neighbor.

"Whenever I get to reading," replied Mr. Crosslots, "the hired girl prances around with a carpet sweeper and I have to get even in some way."

Ostriches and Doves.

The ostrich hides his head and will not fight.

The dangers waiting near: beyond a doubt.

Sometimes I think, oh, ostrich-bird, that you are like the dove of peace we read about.

Domestic Reminiscence.

"You use the long distance telephone a great deal when you are away from home?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Meekton. "It keeps me from being homesick. Telephoning from a pay station makes me think of a conversation with Henrietta. As soon as the operator and I have said 'Hello' to each other she proceeds to tell me how much money she has to have."

Conversational Discretion.

"Why do you always insist on talking about the weather to your barber?"

"You wouldn't have me talk about anything as exciting as politics to a man who is handling a razor, would you?"

Not Resentful.

"Those people say they don't believe you ever reached the pole."

"That's all right," replied the explorer, as he looked up from his manuscript. "The more doubts there are as to whether I landed or not, the longer this rather remunerative discussion is going to last."

Little in Much.

When you a statement clear would make.

On matters old or new.

The public feeling to awake.

A sentence short would do.

When a sentiment all intense.

Arose against public sham.

The strongest style of eloquence.

Was just an epigram.

But when your heart becomes less bold;

Your mode of thought less brave,

In paragraphs the world you scold

And next in chapters grave.

Through pages long your words will reach.

When utterance is vain.

There is no limit to our speech

In trying to explain.

Auto Reciprocity.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The New Jersey senate on second

thought has considered the unfavorable

action on the automobile reciprocity

bill and has given the measure its ap-

proval. It is expected that Gov. Wilson

will sign it. He can hardly do otherwise,

as the bill is a broad measure, putting

New Jersey on a parity with the states

about her. It will break down the wall

of exclusion which delays and annoys au-

tomobilists of other states at the border

of New Jersey and compels them to pay

tribute and qualify themselves by a special

license before venturing upon any of

the highways of that state. Each state

has its laws regulating automobile travel

and prescribing a license for each car.

The reciprocity provision among the

states simply means that the motorists

who comply with the laws of their own

state may visit and use the highways of

a neighboring state on their home license

provided that a similar courtesy is al-

lowed to the motorists of the state visited

when they in turn cross into another

state. All the eastern states have a law

of this character except New Jersey. This

state has heretofore refused this neighborly

and mutually beneficial reciprocity, but

the pending bill when signed will put it

in harmony with its sister states.

Trying to Regulate Marriage.

From the New York World.

Bishop Anderson of Chicago, supported

by a goodly array of pastors in other

cities, has declared that the church should

not celebrate marriages unless the intend-

ing bride and groom bring certificates of

health and sanity. A Boston lady, the

Rev. Robert H. Witham, now proposes to

subject the candidates to three other tests

as well. She will require the certificate

of a financier that the man is able to sup-

port a wife; one from a housekeeper that

the woman is able to take charge of a

household, and finally she would require

evidence that the pair are supplied with

"love immortal and divine which will

render things glorious in their lives."

These are hard rules. No man ever lived

that was perfectly healthy and sane in

the opinion of a physician. No young man

was ever deemed quite competent to at-

tend to business by an old financier. No

young woman was ever adjudged a good

housekeeper by a council of grandmothers.

And who shall give assurance of the

love immortal and divine?

From Way Down South.

From the Baltimore American.

The freight service of the rail-

roads reaching southward does not wait

for winter to get out of the lap of spring

in the business of furnishing the middle

and northern zone cities with garden

truck, redolent of the soil. Each recurring

springtime apple movement is a little

kitchen garden dependencies. There is

hardly anything in the line of fresh veg-

etables that cannot now be obtained in

city markets. The price of most of

these commodities is rather fanciful, but

there is undoubtedly a brisk demand.

The Jury.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Recall of judges and even of constitu-

tional decisions can never make the law

thoroughgoing and effective. Some sort

of practical reform of the jury system is

required to do that. It is not so much the

jury system as the jury that needs at-

tention. In the final stage of the adminis-

tration of justice turns upon the developed

consciousness of justice in the individual.

The individual citizen must respect the

law. He must be willing to make sacri-

fices to uphold it and to demand that it

be practically enforced. The enfeeblement

of lawyers and the vanities of courts will

be swept aside before a state composed

of men of intelligence, conscience and

a deep sense of personal responsibility.

Change of Front.

From the New York Tribune.

Big business is mercurial. When the

Standard Oil decision was announced

hands were represented as being wrong

and the fate of enterprise was wept over.

And now the mere failure to convict the

packers is said to inspire the belief that

the courts and the Sherman law are im-

portant.

He Knows.

From the Boston Globe.

If you don't know exactly when the big

league baseball season will begin, just

ask the first boy you meet.

ESTABLISHED 1814. CAPITAL, \$252,000.

SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS OVER \$400,000.

RESOURCES Nearly \$2,000,000.

The Farmers and Mechanics National Bank

COR. 31ST AND M STS., GEORGETOWN.

—begs to announce to its friends and the public that, beginning MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1912, it will conduct a

Savings Department, Paying 3% Interest ON MONTHLY BALANCES.

The officers and directors extend YOU and your friends a cordial invitation to be present at the opening of this MODERN department in one of the OLDEST financial institutions in the country.

OFFICERS: DIRECTORS:

S. Thomas Brown, President Joseph H. Bradley, J. E. Dyer,
Wm. King, Vice Pres. S. Thomas Brown, William King,
C. W. Edmonston, Cashier Chas. H. Cragin, J. H. Small, Jr.,
L. S. Frey, Asst. Cashier S. Sewall Cappel, Robt. D. Weaver.

Until a short time ago, scarcely one person in a thousand had ever tasted a really good soda cracker—as it came fresh and crisp from the oven.

Now every man, woman and child in these United States can know and enjoy the crisp goodness of fresh baked soda crackers without going to the baker's oven.

Uneeda Biscuit bring the bakery to you.

A food to live on. Stamina for workers. Strength for the delicate. Bone and flesh for little folks.

It will cost you just 5 cents to try Uneeda Biscuit.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY.

EAT CABBAGE, ONIONS OR SAUSAGE WITHOUT DREAD OF INDIGESTION.

No misery-making gas, heartburn or sour, upset Stomach if you will eat a few Diapepsin occasionally.

